

March 17, 2020

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Chairwoman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development, and Related
Agencies
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson, Ranking
Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development, and Related
Agencies
2084 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson,

We appreciate the committee's past support for critical U.S. Army Corps of Engineers studies that help to identify and address key water resources issues in communities across the country and respectfully request continued support in FY2021.

We respectfully request that the U.S. Army Corps Investigation account is funded at the maximum extent practicable to allow various water resources projects, including flood risk assessments, navigation and storm damage reduction to compete for funding. This funding is critical to ensuring that communities like the North Atlantic Coast can compete for Corps resources that they badly need to not only recover from storms like Hurricane Sandy, but also to prepare for future superstorms that could inflict untold damage.

Maintaining this important funding will also encourage the Corps to continue their investigations into how our coastal communities can better manage future flood risk. The Corps' North Atlantic Comprehensive Study indicated the New Jersey Back Bay area as in need of focus for future coastal storm risk management efforts. The Committee should continue its support of these important programs to help develop comprehensive studies of the needs of communities like those along New Jersey's Back Bay. Ensuring the resilience of our coastal infrastructure, ecosystems and economies will be critical to our coastal areas' ability to maintain their way of life in the years to come.

We also request that you please include the following language in the Committee's FY21 report: "The Committee maintains interest in the New Jersey Back Bay study and notes the economic costs and risks associated with flood and storm events, as evidenced by Hurricane Sandy. The Corps is encouraged to include appropriate funding for this study in future budget requests. The Corps is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the status of this examination."

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your strong past support for Army Corps of Engineers' studies.

Sincerely,

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Cosigners:

Pascrell
Malinowski
Payne